

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): MASUDA, et al
Serial No.: (not yet assigned)
Filed: July 11, 2003
For: PLASMA ETCHING APPARATUS AND PLASMA ETCHING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 11, 2003

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, this information disclosure statement is being submitted with the following citation as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(d).

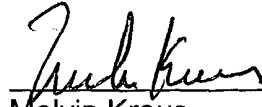
"A copy of any patent, publication or other information listed in an information disclosure statement is not required to be provided if it was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, provided that the prior application is properly identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120."

Applicant(s) are submitting herewith a copy of Form PTO-1449 which list documents cited in parent application(s) Serial No. 09/983,946, filed October 26, 2001, Serial No. 09/421,044, filed October 20, 1999, Serial No. 09/227,332, filed January 8, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,171,438, Serial No. 08/611,758, filed March 8, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,874,012.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.34403C11) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melvin Kraus", is written over a horizontal line.

Melvin Kraus
Registration No. 22,466
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

MK/cee
(703) 312-6600

Form PTO-1449
Equivalent

U.S. Department of Commerce
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Atty. Docket No. 520.34403C11
Serial No. (not yet assigned)
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Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609;
Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.